

Serial No. 10/720,657

Filed: November 24, 2003

REMARKSSummary of Office Action

In the Office Action mailed October 7, 2004, the Examiner indicated that:

- 1) the title was not descriptive and should be amended to indicate the invention to which the claims are directed (paragraph 4, page 2);
- 2) paragraph 1 of page 1 of the disclosure required amendment because of informalities in the identification of the status of the application (paragraph 5, page 2);
- 3) the Abstract required correction to omit the reference to the merits and applications of the invention and comparisons with the prior art (paragraph 6, page 3);
- 4) claims 30, 32, 36 and 37 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on Gills, U.S. Patent No. 4,655,640 (paragraphs 7 and 8, pages 3-5);
- 5) claims 30 and 32-37 were rejected as obvious and unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Gillis and Shear et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,231,269 (paragraphs 9 and 10, pages 5-7);
- 6) claims 30-49 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,652,194 (paragraphs 11-13, pages 7-9); and
- 7) claims 31 and 38-49 were allowable over the prior art of record upon a timely filing of a Terminal Disclaimer (paragraph 14, page 9).

Applicant's Response

With the amendments to the title, specification, Abstract and the cancellation of claims 30 and 32-37, this application is now in condition for allowance.

The title of the application has been amended to be indicative of the invention to which claims 31 and 38-49 are directed.

Paragraph 1 of page 1 has been amended as indicated by the Examiner to clarify the status of this application.

The Abstract has been cancelled and the new Abstract that is presented herewith does not refer to purported merits and applications of the invention or compare the invention with the prior art.

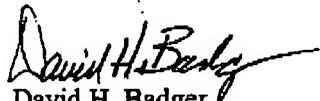
Rejected claims 30 and 32-37 have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue patentability of their subject matters in a further divisional application.

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Enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer required by the Examiner, and with the filing of this Terminal Disclaimer, the remaining claims of this application (claims 31 and 38-49) are now in condition for allowance, and allowance of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures

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